



Water Supply Situation

As a consequence of an improving water supply outlook, SPU formally withdrew from the "Advisory Stage" of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan on Wednesday, 3/12/03. Chester Morse Lake is currently about 10.7 feet above its normal water surface elevation for this time of year, and the Tolt Reservoir about 2.4 feet above normal. Although these gains are significant, the snowpack in our mountain watersheds remains low, at about 58 percent of normal in the Cedar watershed, and 48 percent of normal in the Tolt watershed. In a normal year, about 29.5 inches of snow water equivalent would be present in the Cedar watershed, and about 36.1 inches in the Tolt watershed. Our actual snow water accumulations are approximately 17.0 inches in both the Cedar and Tolt watersheds. *Because the recent storms largely refilled the reservoirs, we are much less reliant on snowmelt runoff to do that this year. The probability is very high for full reservoirs at the start of summer.*

Major construction of fish passage, screening facilities, and dam stabilization features at Landsburg continues, along with major

construction at Lake Youngs for the Cedar Treatment Facility.

Higher than normal reservoir water surface elevations are enabling normal, supplemental, and greater than specified instream flows to be provided to Cedar River sockeye salmon fry to aid in their annual outmigration. Chinook and sockeye continue to emerge from the gravel. In the Cedar, essentially all sockeye fry will move directly downstream to rear in Lake Washington. Although the majority of chinook fry typically migrate downstream shortly after emergence, a significant number of fish may remain to rear for up to 3 months in the Cedar and South Fork Tolt rivers. Sockeye fry are being released from the Cedar River interim sockeye hatchery. WDFW crews also installed the fry migration trap in the lower Cedar River at Renton and are enumerating emigrating juvenile chinook and sockeye salmon each night.

Coho spawning in the Tolt and Cedar systems is complete. Adult summer-run steelhead are spawning in the South Fork Tolt River. Initial spawning surveys conducted by WDFW suggest another strong return of summer-run steelhead to the Tolt this year.



CIP Projects Update

Cedar Treatment Facility Design-Build-Operate Project

Clearwells

Thirteen walls have been completed to date on the North Clearwell, and seventeen walls on the South Clearwell. Scaffolding is being setup for one of the four South Clearwell roof quarter section pour scheduled for March 28th. Columns and footings are being poured on a daily basis for the next month. Both 10-million gallon storage structures are scheduled for completion in July of 2003.

Ozone Building

The structural slab on grade and three weir wall concrete pours are done to date.

Electrical duct banks are being completed this month.

UV Building

The inlet pipe is being encased with concrete this month. A leak test of the structure and piping be completed towards the end of the month. They are forming and setting re-steel for the upper building slabs on-grade and walls. The UV reactor 24" cross-flanged units were delivered in March, and will be installed in April without the reactor tubes.

Flow Control Facility #4

Work resumed on March 17th at FCF-4. The large diameter pipe and valves should be installed within the next month. Concrete pours to complete this valve vault will follow shortly after pipe installation.

Flow Control Facility #5

Dewatering wells and testing are starting this week. Shoring piles and lagging will be installed in April. Following will be a mass excavation for the structure base slab and walls. Large diameter piping will arrive in June.

Raw Water Intake

Piles for tower five will be driven in April. Three sections of tower 5 are in-place and being connected over-water. The remaining two sections will be connected next week along with the inlet gate frames and gates. The raw water piping and pumps will be set in May.

PSE Substation

Construction of the substation is scheduled to begin in April, and should be completed in September. It will provide power to the new treatment facility.

Additional project update information is available on the public web site (<http://projects.ch2m.com/cedarps/>). Or, by calling Duane Maki at (206) 615-2001.



Water Quality Report

Chlorine Residual and Coliform Data from February 2003

All purveyors remained in compliance with the Total Coliform Rule for the year. There were no positive coliform samples in purveyor areas during February 2003. Average chlorine residual concentrations in the purveyor distribution systems ranged from 0.4 to 1.0 mg/L during the last month, with an overall average of 0.75 mg/L. The target residual at the Tolt Treatment facility remained at 1.3 mg/L and the Cedar target residual was 1.5 mg/L.



Disinfection By-Products Results

Collection for 1st quarter 2003 will conclude next week. Analytical results will be available by April 10th.

Annual Water Quality Report Data

Annual water quality data from 2002 for inclusion in this year's Annual Water Quality Report (also referred to as the Consumer Confidence Report) was updated with some additions to the "monitored but not detected" list. Hard copies were distributed at the water quality technical forum on March 12th, and electronic versions of the update were sent out too.

Taste and Odor

The taste and odor panel currently meets every other week during the winter months. Samples are rated on a scale from 1 to 9, with 1 representing the best and 9 representing the worst. The taste and odor flavor rating assessment (FRA) for the most recent Cedar distribution sample was 4.8 and the Tolt supply was 1.5. If you would like to receive a weekly update of the taste and odor panel results, please e-mail Moya Joubert at moya.joubert@seattle.gov.



SPU Contact: Wylie Harper, 206 684-7880 or Lynn Kirby, 206 684-0216.



Regional Conservation

Program Update Summary

On the web at www.seattle.gov/util/purveyors

New Technical Forum on Conservation Replaces Purveyor Conservation Sub-Committee

Seattle wholesale water customers and Seattle Public Utilities staff have reached an agreement on the formation of a committee structure that would be inclusive of all wholesale customers, regardless of contract type. These new forums will provide an opportunity for SPU staff and wholesale water customers to meet in one venue to address technical and programmatic issues related to the regional water system and to provide an efficient and inclusive avenue for dialogue on these issues. All Seattle wholesale water customers are encouraged to have a representative on this forum.

The Technical Forum on Conservation meeting schedules will be as follows:

Forum	Frequency	Location	Date	Time
Conservation	Monthly	SPU-OCC	2nd Tue.	9:30

UMBRELLA MARKETING

Savingwater.org Is Easy to Find

A recent analysis of activity on Savingwater.org has turned up some interesting findings. During the fourth quarter of 2002 (October 1 – December 31), 4,130 visitors to the site found it via search engines. More than 60% found our site via number one ranked Google. The next most used search engine, Yahoo, trailed a distant second at (24.07%). Also of interest was what Keywords brought up our site and the

finding was very positive. Of the people using Google or Yahoo, these were the percentage of people that found the site using the following words/phrases:

Google*

- Water: 23%
- Saving: 10.5%
- Toilet: 10.22%
- Saving water: 7.38%

Yahoo*

- Water: 8.11%
- Toilet: 4.65%
- Saving: 2.35%
- Saving water: 1.31%

*Note: One reason Yahoo is less accurate at sending people to our site is that it gives preference to companies and organizations that pay to have their sites listed first.

CONTACT Cornell Amaya (206) 386-1170

EDUCATION

New Environment Link Part of On-Line Map

The on-line Seattle Regional Water System map now features an environmental link. Through pop up photo images and text, map users are able to learn about regional efforts to maintain healthy water environments for the plants and animals. A fish icon is used to represent the environmental links at these locations: Landsburg in the Cedar River Watershed, Tolt River Watershed and at the Government Locks. This link completes the planned elements of the map. It will be featured on the front page of savingwater.org website as a way of building interest. It will also be used on the "Your Schools link".

CONTACT: Mike Mercer, (206) 684-0570

Dates Set for Summer Water Matters Workshops

Two teacher's workshops are planned for the summer using the successful "Water Matters" workshop format developed over the past three years. The first is scheduled to occur June 24-26th at the Northshore School District. Teachers will be engaged in classroom activities to learn about the properties and characteristics of the water they use. They will also tour the Tolt Watershed to get a first hand look at the treatment process needed to clean the water. A second workshop is planned for August 6-7 and will be held at the new Cedar Watershed Education Center. Participants will use the classroom at the Center and venture into the Watershed for their field experience. Both workshops are geared for Elementary school teachers.

CONTACT: Mike Mercer, (206) 684-0570

RESIDENTIAL INDOOR

Residential Indoor Working Group Meeting

The Residential Indoor Working Group discussed WashWise, single family toilets, flappers, and low-income toilet rebates. Regarding WashWise, the group discussed the transition to the new \$75 rebates program (\$40 from SWP, \$35 from PSE electric utility) which began February 1. Also we discussed the possibility of participating in a national "Double Your Savings" promotion schedule to kick-off April 15-July 15, 2003. In order to keep rebates as simple as possible for retailers and customers, SWP will not offer WashWise rebates during the Double Your Savings promotion, but will increase advertising to encourage SWP customers to take advantage of the \$100 "Double Your Savings" rebates. The group discussed educational efforts and several

pilot projects to be undertaken in 2003. The working group will determine the most effective strategy to encourage customers to replace old toilets and fix toilet leaks, and in particular replace flappers. The group also discussed potential King County Housing Authority participation in low-income toilet rebates this year. The Working Group meets from 1:00-2:30 on second Wednesdays of the month.

CONTACT: David Broustis, (206) 684-4150.

RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE SECTOR

Naturals Guides Distribution

The distribution of the Naturals brochures has been fine-tuned to a standard monthly procedure. As of March 2003, purveyors who would like a delivery of any of these brochures should contact Billie Fisher at (206) 615-1282 by the third Tuesday of each month with their order. Deliveries will be scheduled for the third Friday of each month by Valco (SPU's fulfillment house). If there is a need for an emergency supply of these materials please contact Arece Hampton at (206) 733-9137. We hope this schedule will allow for easier inventory management for purveyors as well as SPU.

The Naturals Guides include the following:

- Growing Healthy Soil
- Choosing the Right Plants
- Smart Watering
- Natural Pest, Weed & Disease Control
- Natural Lawn Care
- Composting At Home (in process of being reprinted)
- Natural Yard Care (brand new, see previous update)

CONTACT: Billie Fisher, (206) 615-1282

Strategic Planning

With the completion of the Barriers Analysis, the results are being integrated into the strategic landscape plan. This plan is also being influenced by the outreach work done by our consultant, Pyramid Communications and their subcontractor. The plan is expected to be completed by the end of the first quarter.

CONTACT: Nota Lucas (206) 684-5855

New Approach Being Developed for High-Peak Use Residential Customers

At the February Landscape Working Group meeting, the team decided that the consultant's projected cost for performing audits was cost prohibitive and did not make sense as a regional program. Audits have previously been tested as a customized tool to directly reach high-peak use residential customers on a one-to-one basis. Choosing to drop audits was a significant decision for the group. We are now in the process of developing other options that will likely rely on several strategies and tactics. Extensive evaluation from this last year's audits will be very helpful in formulating more cost-effective approaches.

CONTACT: Liz Fikejs, (206) 615-0516

COMMERCIAL

Next steps in collaborative efforts to improve irrigation scheduling

SPU is collaborating nationally with other water providers, the Irrigation Association (IA) and irrigation manufacturers to develop a strategy to improve irrigation scheduling for residential and small commercial customers with in-ground automatic systems. Irrigation controllers that water according to weather data have the

potential to save millions of gallons of water in our service territory each year. On February 7, 2003 the Center for Irrigation Technology (CIT) at California State University in Fresno hosted an all day meeting for water providers and irrigation manufacturers. The meeting focused on developing and testing protocols for new irrigation control technologies. The issues related to creating a successful market transformation strategy to increase those technologies share of the controller market. Both utility representatives and irrigation manufacturers have identified CIT as the ideal independent research and testing facility. The IA already retains CIT to conduct industry reviews of draft international irrigation standards.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955

Irrigation Incentive Can Help the New 2002 Rain Sensor Promotion

Are your commercial, institutional or multi-family customers irrigating their landscapes when it rains? Do you often wonder why they're watering the sidewalks and asphalt? If so, the SWP has an affordable solution for all your inefficient irrigation needs. The Water Efficient Irrigation Program can help your customers save water and money with our \$100 Rain Sensor rebate. No obligation landscape irrigation assessments audit will be offered, along with financial incentives for irrigation upgrades. Call now for details, brochures and applications.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955

Water Conservation Technology Roundtable Discussion

On Wednesday, March 26th, at 7:45 AM there will be a Water Conservation Technology Roundtable Discussion in Lander Hall on the University of Washington campus. The topic of



this discussion will be the no-flush urinal. Seattle Public Utilities and the Business and Industry Resource Venture will sponsor this event. Building managers, vendors, engineers, architects, plumbers, and maintenance personnel from the public and private sectors are asked to share their experiences with this technology. All issues will be flushed out during this discussion.

CONTACT: Phil Paschke (206) 684-5883

It is not too late to sign-up for.....

Seattle Wholesale Water Customers

ASSET MANAGEMENT*

Workshop

*Asset Management—a definition: Meeting agreed customer and environmental service levels while minimizing whole of life costs.

Kevin Young, internationally recognized expert on utility asset management, will conduct this workshop for Seattle wholesale water customers. Kevin is currently on loan to Seattle Public Utilities from the Hunter Water Corporation of Australia. Over the last decade, Hunter Water has achieved, through its asset/utility management plans, 40% real reduction in operating cost per property while improving or maintaining its environmental and customer service level performance.

This is an invitation to all Seattle wholesale water customers to attend this workshop.

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

1 to 5 p.m.

**Community Center at Mercer View
8236 SE 24th Street
Mercer Island, WA 98040**



PLEASE RSVP TO ERNIE

**DUNSTON, (206) 684-5951 or
ernie.dunston@seattle.gov today!**

Bring your own brown bag lunches. Beverages will be available.



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